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Dr.Sherry- Comp 101

Ronald McDonald House Charities

**Abstract:** In the essay that follows, I will be arguing that the Ronald McDonald House Charities is one of the best charities on many levels. After conducting a general survey on charities, there are many things that would be surprising to many people. I will be including the findings of this survey and also many other facts from research that I have done in the following paragraphs.

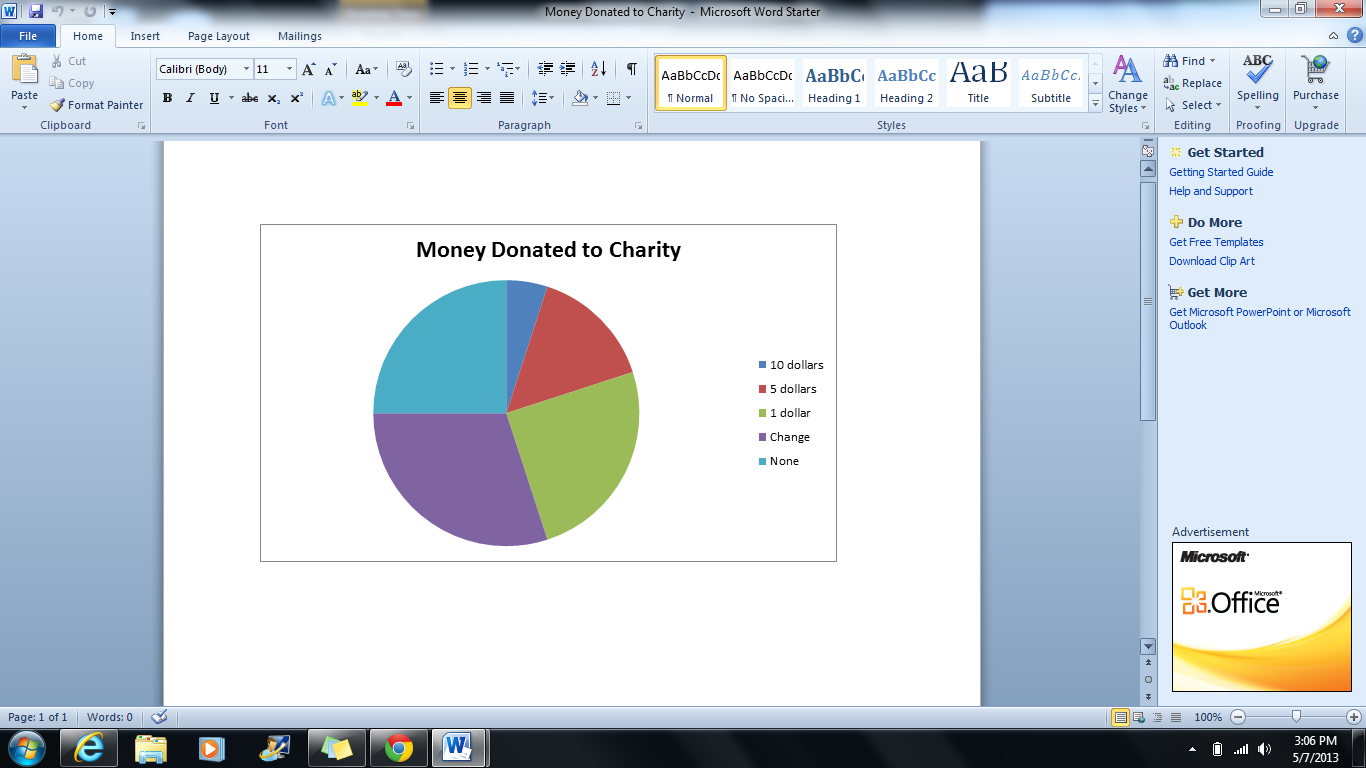
**Problem Statement:**

in the United States, but globally. In the next few paragraphs, I will be sharing research that has been done to prove that the Ronald McDonald House Charities is one of the top in the world.

**Literature Review:**

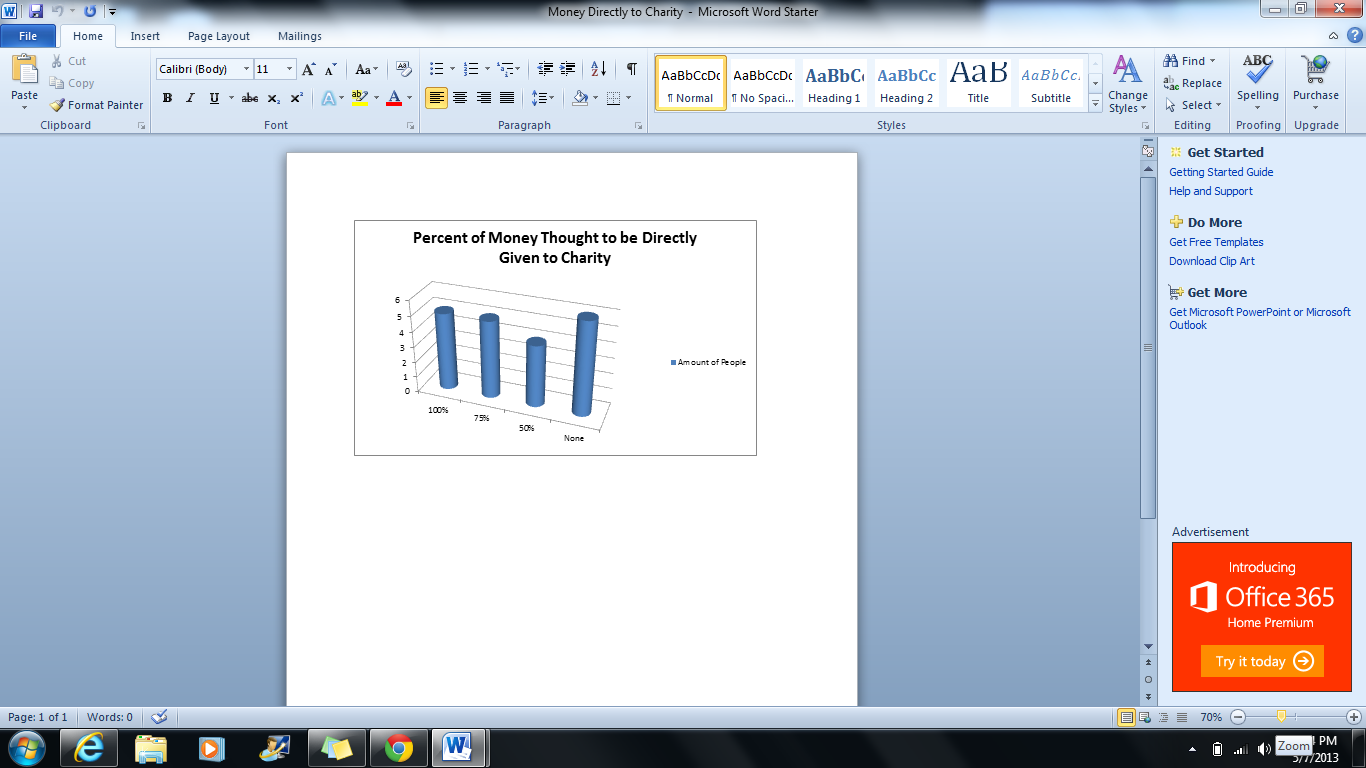
Many people praise the idea that innocent volunteers stand outside during the cold wind and storms of winter to collect money for charities. For example, the Salvation Army has volunteers that stand outside stores such as Walmart during the snowy winters to try to collect

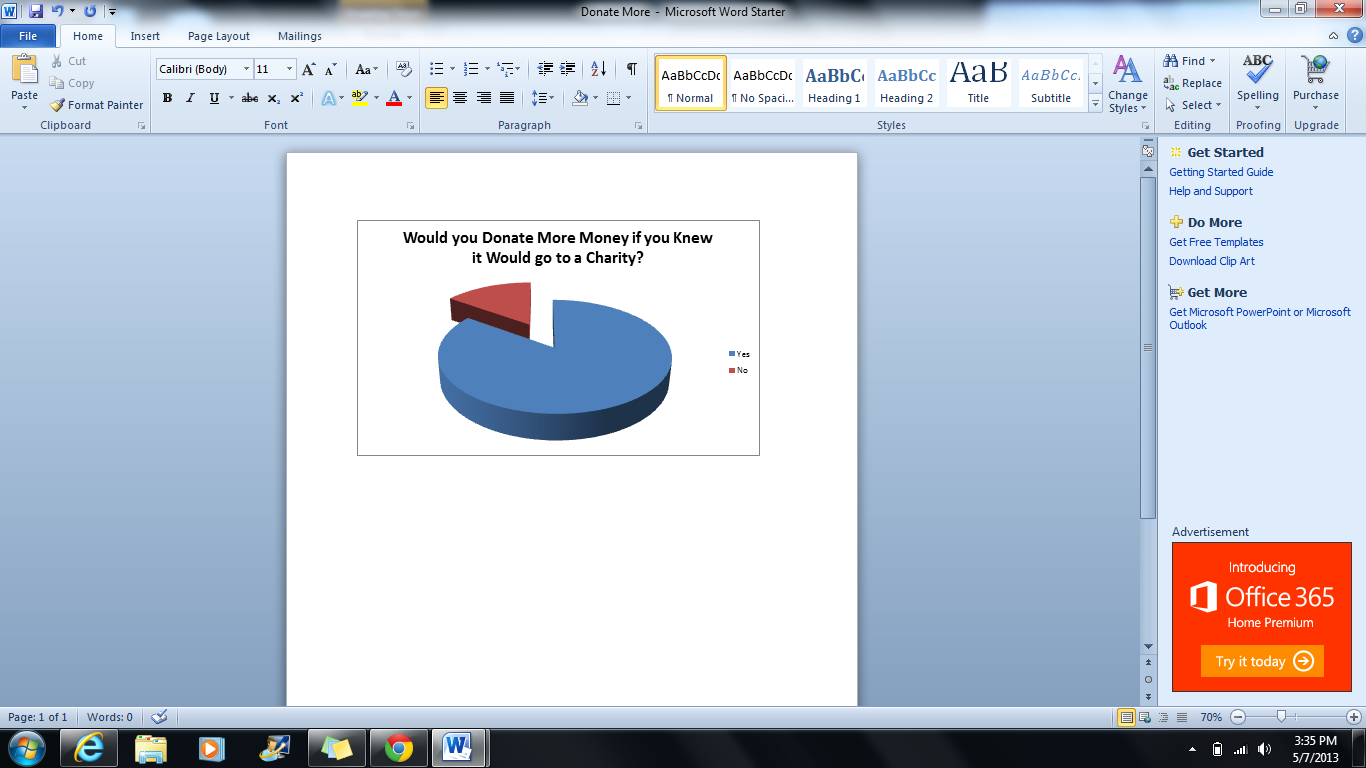
There are many different charities throughout the world. Specifically, one that many have heard of, is the Ronald McDonald House Charities. In general, many people think all charities are perfect in every way, but are there some facts that are hidden that people don’t see? Are all of the people who go out and collect money for charities always faithful? What is the money that you’re dumping into that bucket even go to? Although there are alternating views on charities, the Ronald McDonald House Charities are amongst some of the top rated charities, not only



donations. I conducted a survey to 20 people, and one of the questions was asking how much money on average a person donated to a charity standing outside, such as the Salvation Army. 30% of the people said that they give change that they can find, while only 5% said that they give 10 dollars. The next question that I asked was “On average, what percentage of the money you have given to a charity do you think has gone directly to that charity?” Overall, 30% of the people said that they believe none of the money is given to the charity. 25% believed that all of it was given, 20% believed that 50% of the money was given, and 25% believed 75% or almost all of the money was given directly to the charity. After determining these findings, it was not surprising to see that the population really does not know whether the money actually goes to the charity

or not. As scary as that is, it is true. There is no way to track where all of the money charities receive goes to, but there are many who are interested or who are paid to find out as much as they can about where all of the money is going. Another major question that I asked in my survey





was asking the surveyors if they would donate more money if they knew for a fact that it would all go straight to a charity. The majority (about 85%) said that they would donate more. The other 15% said that they would not donate more. From these results, I can see that the majority of people around the world would donate more money to a charity of their choice if they knew for a fact that it would go straight to a charity. For reasons unexplained, others would not change what they donate no matter what.

**Proposed Response:**

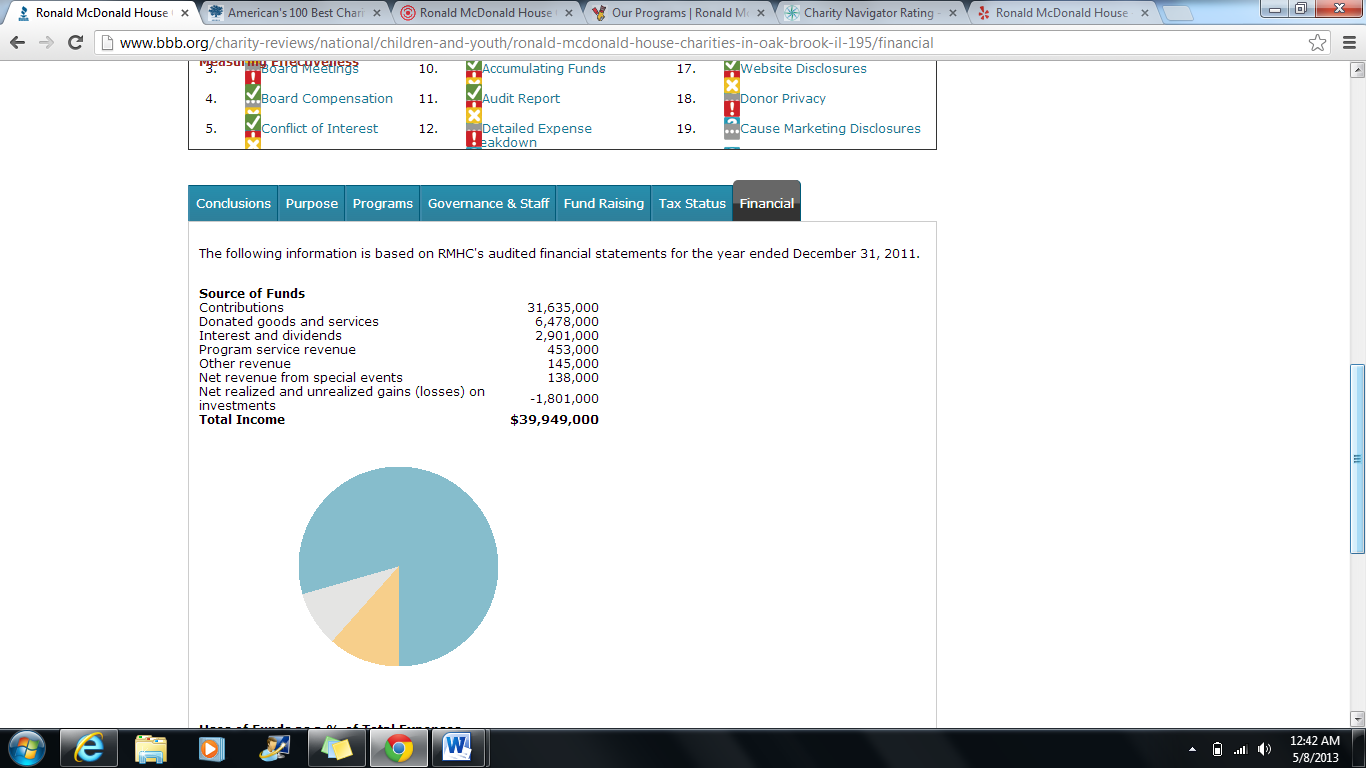
People have always viewed charity collectors as such great people, and they may be, but they also might not realize that the money that they are collecting is not going to the places that they think. Whether people are just clueless as to where their money is going,

or if they just do not care, I believe that people should be aware of where their money is going. I don’t think it is right if charities are saying that all of the money donated will go to a specific cause, when in reality they are using it for something completely different. In order to address this, I have done prior research in order to see if some specific charities actually go through with what they say. I assume that most, if not all, people who give money to charities expect that money to go to the charity. To start, I will be analyzing a couple different websites that deal with charities. Some of these websites compare ratings, different standards, etc.

I believe that they would donate more money. An overall score was given to the Ronald McDonald House Charities of 64.87 out of 70. The overall rating was the average of both the financial and accountability ratings. The financial and accountability categories each have multiple sub-categories all adding up to the total rating. The total contributions to the Ronal McDonald House of Boston in 2010 was $662,398, which was both fundraised and donations from companies and corporations.3 In the year 2011, the total income for the Ronald McDonald House Charities as a whole was $39,949,000, while the total expenses were $34,635,000 giving them a $5,314,000 profit.

**Results/Findings:**

By finding out and knowing which charities are faithful with the money given to them, it may influence the way that people donate their money. I am not in any way saying that any charities are bad, but if they are not going to be faithful about where they are spending the money, then I personally would not want to donate my money to them. Through the research that I conducted, I found that the Ronald McDonald House Charity is listed under the top 100 charities in America. It is ranked higher up with other well-known charities such as the March of Dimes and the American Heart Association1. According to the Ashoka Innovations for the Public, “The bulk of RMHC's spending, however, is in the form of grants to groups that directly improve the health of children.”2 If people know that the money is going all to help children, or know exactly what it will go towards in general,



awards and grants of $100,000, each to individuals selected from across the globe. In 2010 these awards were given to Herbert D. Kelleher, Dr. Frederick C. Battaglia and Guido Freda, each significantly different people.4 Another great opportunity that the Ronald McDonald House Charities offers is Ronald McDonald Camp. The camp is offered to cancer patients and their siblings, meant for them to be able to enjoy being a kid. Each August, close to two hundred campers pack their bags and head to the Ronald McDonald Camp which is located in the Pocono mountains, just three hours outside of Philadelphia. The camp is a week long, filled with things such as swimming, hiking, sports, arts and crafts, music, ropes adventure course, yoga, cooking, and so much more. One of the amazing things about this opportunity is it is free. If families would like, they can donate money to help pay for the

With that money, the charities are expanding world-wide at all times.4 Overall, the charity spreads their money out on a lot of different things. Some of these things are as follows: Community focused programs, health grants, local chapter scholarship programs, the Care Mobile programs, the Family Room program, annual scholarships, and many more.3 Although the Ronald McDonald House focuses itself on helping children and their families, they also do many things for the community. Among the many grants, scholarships, and awards given out by the Ronald McDonald House Charities, one recognized by many is the Award of Excellence. On October 23, 2010, for example, this award was given in honor of individuals who have made outstanding contributions to improve the lives of children. Each year, the Ronald McDonald House Charities presents three prestigious

, provide mobile health units, have camps for family members of those who are or previously were very ill, and many more beneficial opportunities. Through all of the many ways that the Ronald McDonald House Charities provide for millions of families, I truly believe that the Ronald McDonald House Charity is a well-rounded, trustworthy charity. The research that was conducted and that is shared completely explains why this is one of the best charities in the world.

food, equipment, and activities, but only if they choose to. Another amazing thing is there is also a Counselor in Training (CIT) program for current patients and survivors, ages 18 and 19, which helps them develop leadership skills through team building and hands-on experience with campers.5

**Conclusion:**

Although many people think that some charities are all-powerful and don’t follow through with what they say, the Ronald McDonald House Charities not only follow through with their donations, but they also give back to their community in many ways. By purchasing happy meals, dropping your change in the side box at a local McDonalds, collecting soda tabs, and volunteering, the Ronald McDonald Charities would not be able to operate. Because people know and trust this charity, they are able to not only give help to families who have sick children, but also give scholarships,



**Works Cited**

(2) "American's 100 Best Charities." Ashoka. N.p., n.d. Web. 26 Apr. 2013.

(5) "Ronald McDonald Camp." *Our Programs*. N.p., n.d. Web. 26 Apr. 2013.

(4) "Ronald McDonald House Charities "Awards of Excellence" Honors Herbert D. Kelleher, Dr.

Frederick C. Battaglia and Guido Freda." Ronald McDonald House Charities "Awards of

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(3) "Ronald McDonald House Charities." *BBB*. N.p., n.d. Web. 26 Apr. 2013.

(1) "Ronald McDonald House." *Charity Navigator*. N.p., n.d. Web. 26 Apr. 2013.